

**AGENDA ITEMS VI E 1, 2, 3**

**PROGRESS REPORTS ON CONDITIONALLY APPROVED  
PROGRAMS/INSTITUTES**

**LOUISIANA DELTA COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**A.S. IN GENERAL SCIENCE**

**A.A.S. IN BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY**

**A.S. IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**

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#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The Board of Regents conditionally approved the A.S. in General Science in February 2002. Conditional approval was granted for the A.A.S. in Business Technology in April 2002. Conditional approval was granted for the A.S. in Early Childhood Education in August 2002. Each motion for conditional approval included the following stipulation:

**Every six months... until CoC/SACS accreditation has been achieved, the College shall submit a progress report to the Commissioner of Higher Education addressing weaknesses and problematic areas identified by the staff summary as follows: 1) Numbers of Faculty, 2) Adequacy of Library Resources, 3) Adequacy of Facilities and Equipment.**

The College did not submit progress reports in February 2003, since no corrective actions had yet been taken. The Regents considered initial progress reports from LDCC in August 2003. These reports were accepted; a subsequent set of progress reports were required for August 2004.

#### **STAFF SUMMARY**

##### **1. A.S. in General Science**

**Faculty.** During AY 2003-04, the College hired additional full-time faculty: two to teach mathematics and physical science, one to teach biology. There are now four full-time science faculty at the College. Six adjunct faculty also teach science. All faculty have appropriate qualifications. Given how essential scientific education is to many degree programs, the College states that three additional full-time faculty must be hired in the areas of biology/microbiology, chemistry, and physics. Student demand for science courses is high.

**Library.** LDCC students have the same library privileges at ULM as ULM students. During AY 2003-04, the College added a full-time Librarian who works in the ULM Library to serve

LDCC students in particular.

**Facilities/Equipment.** LDCC has been located on the ULM campus itself since Fall 2003. One laboratory and two offices have been assigned for the College's use in Hanna Hall for Science. The offices are being used for lab storage and lab preparations. Lab equipment has been purchased from the BOR Enhancement Fund for Two-Year Colleges in 2003 (\$50,000); a second grant (\$67,000) from this fund has been awarded to enable the expansion of course offerings in this program for 2004-05, but lack of space remains a serious obstacle to the ability of the College to meet student demand for science coursework.

All College science classes are held in the single room in Hanna Hall which serves as both a classroom and a laboratory. Additional space has been negotiated for night classes, but additional day space is not available. The College reports that "Delta's science faculty has been creative in scheduling to attempt to offer as many courses as possible but no longer can meet the demand for courses with this limited space." The BOR Enhancement funds that are flowing to the program to help it expand are being used to increase the quality of science labs; without more space, however, the program cannot expand to meet the level of student demand.

## **2. A.A.S. in Business Technology**

**Faculty.** The College now employs two full-time faculty in the program; a third faculty member in the program has joint responsibilities with the A.A. program in Liberal Arts. Nine adjunct faculty assist with instruction. All faculty have appropriate qualifications.

**Library.** (Same as above.)

**Facilities/Equipment.** During Fall 2003, the College relocated to the ULM campus. A classroom with nine networked computers was installed in the new building for classes in Computer Information Systems. Some new hard- and software upgrades need to be secured for this room. There is also a Learning Resource Center, but the College reports that this room is frequently over-crowded. The College sees a need for an additional open computer lab staffed with assistants. Other classrooms associated with the program (e.g., business classes) are adequate at this time.

State IT grant program awards (\$61,000) have been used in the past two years to develop information technology certification programs (MOUS, MCSE) in an effort to increase the number of certified information technology professionals in northeast Louisiana.

## **3. A.S. in Early Childhood Education**

**Faculty.** The College has hired an appropriately-qualified full-time faculty member to teach all courses in the program and serve as its Director. The Director is advised by a Committee composed of individuals from local school boards, Head Start programs, child care centers, and other stakeholders. A TANF grant in 2003-04 has paid the salary of the Director; that grant is set to expire.



**Library.** Monies from the TANF enhancement grant were also used to purchase 102 resource books and videos specifically for students in the program. These resources are currently housed in the office of the Director. Students have full borrowing privileges at the ULM library.

**Facilities/Equipment.** The College reports that, due to a sharp increase in student demand, space and resources for this program remain limited. Field experiences are available at the Northeast Campus Ministries Co-op Child Care Center nearby.

**Articulation.** The College is part of statewide efforts in 2+2 teacher preparation program articulation; such efforts are ongoing. In addition to being part of these discussions, the Program Director is working to develop articulation agreements with Family and Consumer Science baccalaureate programs at area universities.

### **STAFF ANALYSES**

All areas of staff concern remain areas of concern. Some are the result of resource issues which will more likely be resolved as programs continue to develop and students are enrolled. Continued monitoring would appear to be essential. The next progress reports relative to these programs shall be due October 1, 2005.

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS**

*The staff recommends that the Academic and Student Affairs Committee receive the 2003-04 Progress Reports from Louisiana Delta Community College Relative to the A.S. program in General Science, the A.A.S. in Business Technology, and the A.S. in Early Childhood Education. Additional progress reports addressing previously stated staff concerns shall be due October 1, 2005.*